

Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	500
Other	376
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	779
Female	97
Average age of principal operator (years)	56.4
All operators <sup>5</sup> by race:	
White	1,258
Black or African American	7
American Indian or Alaska Native	6
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	6
More than one race	7
All operators <sup>5</sup> of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	12

Footnotes: 1/ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with items. 2/ Beginning with 1997, data includes an adjustment for undercoverage. 3/Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for “cropland pasture” and “other pasture” are not always comparable from the Census. Acreage beginning with 1964 refer to pastureland and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pastured, on farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. 4/ Beginning with 1974, agricultural operations under individual management with annual sales of \$1,000 or more. 5/ Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm. NA Not Available. (D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than ½ of the unit shown. See “Census of Agriculture, Vol. 1, Geographic Series” for complete footnotes.

*Distributed by:*  
*Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service*  
*P.O. Box 1659*  
*Richmond, VA 23218-1659*

*Phone (804) 771-2493*  
*FAX Number (804)-771-2651*  
*<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>*  
*Kevin Barnes, Director*

For more Statistics on the 2002 Census of Agriculture go  
to  
[www.NASS.USDA.GOV](http://www.NASS.USDA.GOV)

Revised 2004

WYTHE

COUNTY

2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture

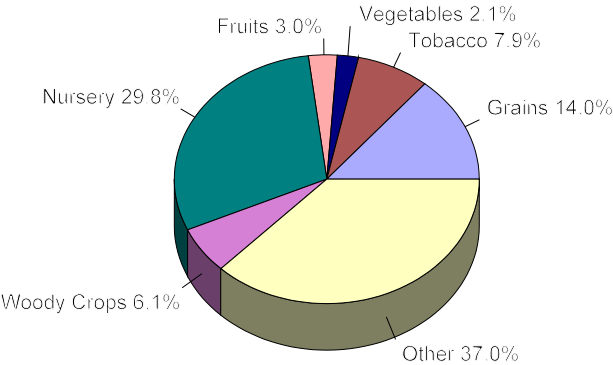
Wythe County is located in the southwestern part of the Great Valley of Virginia. Formed in 1790 from part of Montgomery, the county was named in honor of George Wythe, the first of Virginia’s signers of the Declaration of Independence.

The topography of the county includes a wide rolling valley through the central part of the county and mountains on the northern and southwestern borders. Elevations vary from 1,900 feet to 2,800 feet above sea level, while the neighboring mountains rise to a height of about 4,000 feet. Temperatures for the area average 35 degrees in January and 71 in July. The frost-free growing season averages 163 days, usually extending from April 27 to October 7. Annual precipitation averages 39 inches.

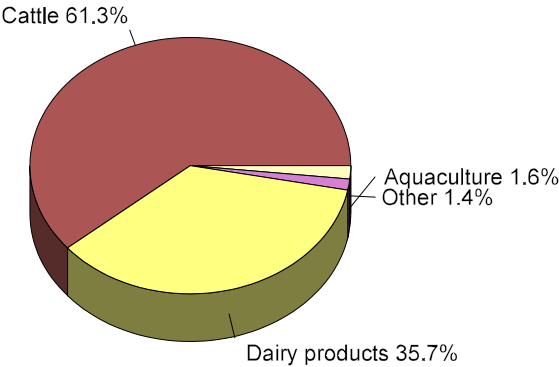
Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	876	876
Land in Farms (acres)	151,059	148,119
Average size of farm	172	169
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$30,528,000	\$25,335,000
Average per farm	\$34,849	\$28,921
Government Payments	\$1,206,000	\$179,000

CASH RECEIPTS

Crops



Livestock & Poultry



Ranked Items among the 98 state counties and 3,078 US Counties, 2002

Commodity	Quantity	State Rank	Universe 1/	US Rank	Universe 1/
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	327	56	95	2,115	2,871
Tobacco	184	29	43	374	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	49	75	95	2,057	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	71	52	93	1,415	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	694	46	95	1,255	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	143	10	76	338	1,774
Other crops and hay	864	24	97	1,386	3,046
Poultry and eggs	5	64	94	2,235	2,918
Cattle and calves	17,268	6	97	609	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	10,055	5	83	376	2,493
Hogs and pigs	55	34	90	1,666	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	108	15	93	765	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	232	31	94	974	3,014
Aquaculture	460	6	44	277	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	14	31	87	1,675	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	51,992	5	97	539	3,059
Sheep and lambs	2,347	10	93	483	2,867
Horses and ponies	1,594	12	97	688	3,065
Layers 20 weeks old and older	521	50	96	1,878	2,983
All Goats	486	31	95	1,032	2,971
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	31,560	9	97	679	3,059
Corn for silage	5,011	6	87	367	2,307
Corn for grain	1,817	43	96	1,597	2,592
All Wheat for grain	381	58	87	1,872	2,517
Nursery stock	(D)	(D)	77	(D)	2,129

FARM DATA & LAND USE

YEAR	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Avg. Value Per Acre For Land & Buildings	LAND USE					
				Cropland			Other Pasture 3/	Woodland	
				Harvested	Other	Pasture		Pasture	Not Pastured
	Number	Acres	Dollars	-Acres-					
1940	2,183	147,700	59	56,178	10,917	3,896	NA	NA	NA
1945	1,680	139,500	75	64,207	7,451	2,083	2,780	1,678	45,395
1950	1,405	139,844	93	68,755	6,484	2,858	2,109	NA	48,688
1954	1,069	125,701	124	65,688	2,497	2,489	5,312	NA	44,934
1959	805	112,191	184	66,410	2,544	2,711	2,079	NA	30,586
1964	690	114,180	258	73,579	3,897	1,366	2,205	1,430	23,818
1969	466	105,031	368	72,179	3,879	1,429	943	2,464	17,190
1974 4/	420	96,708	661	70,258	1,806	1,617	1,057	2,802	11,184
1978	448	104,192	1,049	75,999	3,320	1,049	648	1,002	17,459
1982	415	105,298	1,311	77,962	722	1,156	896	1,054	17,719
1987	323	89,775	1,378	67,629	5,851	654	651	527	11,769
1992	279	91,568	1,561	69,420	1,953	1,050	1,349	405	14,745
1997 2/	876	148,119	1,528	35,514	4,147	42,946	34,956	10,113	17,021
2002	876	151,059	2,158	38,647	2,664	27,388	50,956	11,342	15,899

See footnotes on back.